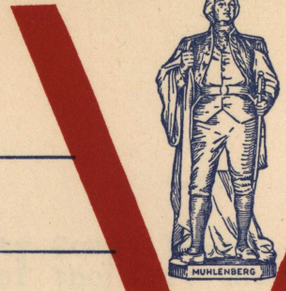


VICTORY FLASHES

April 15, 1944
Number 33

Greetings Again:

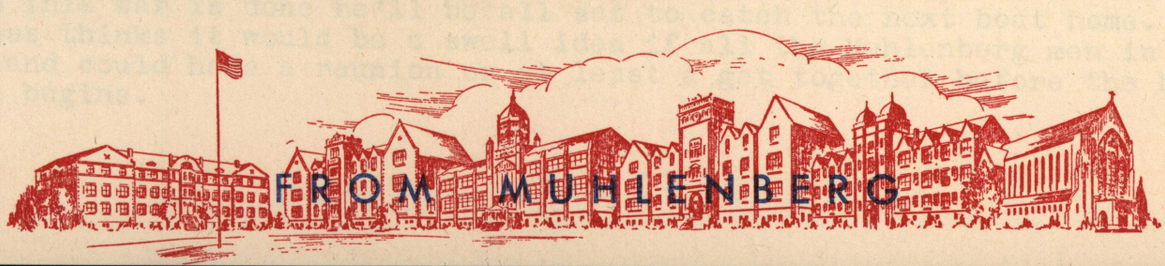
We've just come from the Chapel where President Tyson and a few others of us have been trying to find space to expand Muhlenberg's service roster. We recalled the day--just two years ago--when we placed the first honor roll listing the names of 164 Muhlenberg men in the armed forces. Some of us were naive enough to believe that board with space for 250 names would be large enough. Others estimated the ultimate figure at 500. All of us were wrong. Thus far we've placed four boards with a total capacity for 1,000 names. And still we must find space for more. As of this afternoon we have the names of 1,076 Muhlenberg men in the Army, the Navy, and the Marine Corps. We hope the list will soon stop growing and that you and all Muhlenberg men will be home again. Then we'll talk with more certainty about the real memorial that will perpetuate for generations of Muhlenberg men not yet born what you fellows have done.

Perhaps it's because Spring is in the air or perhaps it's for some other unknown reason--but very little exciting has happened during the past two weeks. We've been running along very smoothly with the Navy and the College functioning every day more like a well-trained team. You can bet your last dollar on it that the more than 400 trainees on the campus are on the ball, realizing the importance of the job ahead of them. Civilians--those that are left--are doing the same.

This afternoon the baseball season gets under way when Muhlenberg's Marine and Navy team plays Swarthmore at Swarthmore. Coach Julian has cut his squad to about 30 men and has some good material, some that is just fair. We'll be able to tell you a little more about it in two weeks. We'll be playing Lehigh at home on April 19 and at Bethlehem on April 22, Ursinus away on April 26 and Lafayette at home on May 3. Others on the schedule up to June 17 include Bloomsburg State Teachers College, Villanova, Penn State, Bucknell, and Princeton, most of them for home and home games. We're planning to have at least one game a week through the summer.

Also scheduled for Saturday is the opening of the track season with Muhlenberg meeting City College of New York in Allentown. Tennis gets under way on April 22 with Chief Specialist Noel Roberts as the coach. Doc Shankweiler, whose tennis teams at Muhlenberg are traditional, has temporarily relinquished the coaching job he has held as a volunteer because of the pressure of other work.

Like you fellows in the service, we had no spring vacation or Easter vacation at Muhlenberg this year--and we didn't expect any. Classes were suspended, however, for two hours on Good Friday afternoon to permit students to attend a special service and Communion either in the College chapel or in a church of their choice. At our service Chaplain Doberstein dedicated a beautiful new Communion Chalice, the gift to the College from Lieutenant James L. Tyson and Apprentice Seaman David O. Tyson, sons of President and Mrs. Tyson.



The Inter-Fraternity Council--yes, fraternities are still active at Muhlenberg in spite of the fact that the College is temporarily using their houses--is planning the annual Inter-Fraternity ball at the Woman's Club on May 20. Any of you fellows who were Greek letter men and who will be in the area over that week-end will be welcome. There will be Greeks there--in Navy uniform--from two score colleges, men now in Muhlenberg's V-12 unit. An informal student body dance is also sched uled for April 29 at the Woman's Club and we'll be glad to see you then.

We certainly do appreciate those letters you fellows have been writing--letters that come from around the world. Here are some of the gleanings from them:

First Lieutenant Jack N. Dannerhirsch '30, who served as Unit Supply Officer in the European theatre of operations for eight months, has returned for a brief leave and is now being processed through the Army Air Forces Redistribution Station in Miami Beach. Lieutenant Kenneth B. Lambert '39, just a few months ago an interne at the Allentown Hospital, is now stationed at Hoff General Hospital, Santa Barbara, Cal.

Here are some from the foreign fronts:

Major E. W. McNeil '22, of the Army Air Forces, writes from New Guinea that real results are now beginning to be evident in what seemed to be an almost hopeless task of covering a great area. Lieutenant (j.g.) Bill Doabler '38 met Lieutenant (j.g.) Chuck Garrettson '37 on a certain island in the South Pacific where both of them are looking for more Muhlenberg men. Harold Helfrich '44 dropped us another short note from India. He is anxious to hear from some of the men he knew while he was in College.

From Burma comes word from Lieutenant Paul W. Fatzinger '31. He says the place may be alright but he sometimes wonders why the Japs aren't allowed to keep it as "punishment to themselves." He admits, however, that if he were looking at it with the eyes of a tourist, he'd have to say that he had seen marvelous and gorgeous scenic beauties and had come across modes of life, philosophies, and characters that can never be appreciated except by personal experiences. His biggest gripe is that with all his fiddling about with languages, he never gave a fig for the Oriental lingos.

Capt. Clyde H. Kelchner '25 agrees with Dr. Lambert of the Rockfeller Foundation who notes in his book "A Yankee Doctor in Paradise" that New Guinea "is the lousiest place God ever created and forgot to finish." The Tropics, he writes, rot, rust, and moulder men as well as wood, leather, and metal. He tells of cutting down the jungle forest and draining the swamps before setting up a hospital. In those jungles, he claims that Nature is the worst enemy.

Les Trauch '29 sleeps on coral stones and sea shells somewhere on the Gilbert Islands. He's enjoying "aquamarine seas, penetrating blue skies, and friendly natives." And in his letter, he invites any of you who have the desire, to "drape your best Turkish towel about you, drop your panties, and go Gilbertese."

Lieutenant Roger Jamieson '42 and Bob Stahl '43 are with the Marines somewhere in the Hawaiian Islands. They run into each other occasionally. Even though he is in the Hawaiian Islands, Jamieson is anxious to go to work as Fund Director for his class. He'll soon be able to do it because the Loyalty Fund will get under way in short order.

There have been several letters from England: one from Lieutenant Clark R. Diefenderfer '42 and another from Charlie Krauss '46. Diefenderfer says he has seen quite a bit of the English towns and countryside--a great and most interesting experience. Yet he promises that when this war is done he'll be all set to catch the next boat home. Krauss thinks it would be a swell idea if all the Muhlenberg men in England could have a reunion or at least a get together before the big push begins.

Capt. Ralph F. Harwick '30 and Capt. John Dry '39 had a long talk the other day on the Anzio Beachhead while listening for the big shells whistling overhead and hearing the boom of the field artillery. Harwick says that Anzio really is a "hot spot" and he doesn't mean climate! From Pfc. Adam Matusa '39, serving with a bombardment group overseas, comes word that these letters help him keep in touch with many of his close College friends.

More mail from Tuss Becker '43, still in India and still sticking his chest out about Muhlenberg's basketball team. He thinks he'll still have a few good games of football left in him when the war has been won and he comes back to Muhlenberg.

"Life in the Pacific is not what the movie colonies picture it," writes Walter Menzel '42 from "Island X" where he is serving with the Seabees. "It's really a laugh," he writes. "The women we see are buxom, blithe, and debonair. All the natives have been sent over to a small island which makes it nice for all who are stationed on this island." He too is waiting to get back and tell us more about it.

The mail also brought a letter from Lieutenant John W. Schmitthenner '42, somewhere in Italy; an Easter greeting made by Capt. Carl Proehl's Marines in the Southwest Pacific; and a long letter from Sgt. Carl F. Ritter '30 who is getting a G.I. view of England after touring it with Dave Kline '32 and Dr. Barba in 1931. He calls this little task of corresponding with more than a 1,000 Muhlenberg men " an unenviable job", but Elsie and Margaret and I like it and we mean to continue it until the last Mule comes home. We'll take time out now to review some of the domestic mail in another week or two.

Here are some of the promotions we have noted: CAPTAIN Walter C. Dudley '38, and PRIVATE FIRST CLASS Clarence B. Nyce '46.

Here are the new names that should be added to your list of Muhlenberg men in service. Write to us any time for complete addresses and up-to-date addresses of anyone to whom you might like to write.

Lt. Fred H. Rhodes, 557th AAA Bn., Fort Jackson, S.C.
Pfc. Willard W. Christman, 1409 Mt. Vernon St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Major Henry G. Bille, 104 Div. Hdqs., APO 104, Camp Carson, Colo.
Pfc. Howard L. Keiper, APO 634, c/o P.M., New York, N.Y.
Cpl. Ervin R. Kishbaugh '45, APO 2, c/o P.M., New York, N.Y.
Lt. Kermit M. Shelly '42, c/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, Calif.
Lt. John P. Schaffner '40, Hahnemann Hospital, Philadelphia, Pa.
Ensign Paul B. Heffner, '38, 133 Brown Hall, NTS, Princeton, N.J.
Pvt. Dale M. Johnson, Co. D. 62nd Med. Trg. Bn., Camp Barekley, Tex.
Lt. James L. Tyson, c/o Fleet Post Office, New York, N.Y.
A/C Bruce Handelong, '45, Address Wanted
Pvt. Wm. E. Diehl, '46, 33773844, Co. D. 67th Med.Tn.Bn.Camp Barkeley
Ensign Joseph R. Reichard '34, c/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco
Lt. Edward R. Seltzer '28, Norfolk Naval Air Stn., Norfolk, Va.
Ensign H.W. Witwer, '43, c/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, Cal.
Ensign Richard T. Baureithel '43, c/o Fleet P.O., New York, N.Y.
A/C Milton A. Cruden '28, USN Receiving Brks., Lido Beach, N.Y.
Walter E. Menzel '44, c/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, Calif.
Ensign Arthur G. Taylor, Villa D'Este Hotel, Rm. 248, Miami, Fla.
Pfc. Peter C. Cosier, Co. A 1st Bn.3314SU, Temple Univ.,Phila. 30, Pa.
Richard H. Woodring '44, 309th Inf. A.T. Co., Camp Pickett, Va.
Cpl. Robert Krimmel, '44, Shaw Field, Sumter, S.C.
Pfc. Wm. H. Walters '42, 3315SU Hahnemann Med. College, Phila., Pa.
Lt. Robert S. Rowland '41, Box 121, Stn. Hosp., Ft. Jackson, S.C.
Lt. James Finley '42, No. 3, Dental Clinic, Ft. Knox, Ky.
Fd. Dir. Fred J. Wavrek, '34, APO 914, c/o P.M., San Francisco, Cal.
Lt. Valentine J. Burkhauser '38 11th A/B Div. APO 468, Camp Polk, La.
Sgt. Charles A. Walker '36, Co. B. 334d Ar. Eng.Bn., Ft. Benning, Ga.
Pfc. James M. Keiter, Co. E. Brks. 10, 3305 SU, Univ of Penn, Phila,Pa.
Major Ernest J. Reiter, Hdqs. ASOPS A-2, 455 Lake Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
Major James E. Kahler, 1802nd SCU, Borden Gen. Hosp., Chickasha, Okla.
Pvt. Wm. P. Griffin, '37, 607 S. Pineview Ave., Goldsboro, N.C.
T/5 Alfred H. Ayres, 253rd Inf. 63rd Div,, APO 410, Camp VanDorn, Miss.

Lt. Russel S. Milanick '38, 313th Sub. Depot, George Field, Ill.
Lt. James A. Harps '38, APO 477, c/o P.M., Minneapolis, Minn.
Philip L. Baty, '31, Trp. A 1st Trg. Reg. Brks. 2041, Ft. Riley, Kan.
Lt. Norton L. Behney '36, DC Base Hosp. Hamilton, San Raphael, Calif.
Chaplain Clarence A. Boyer, Stark Gen. Hosp., Swannanoa, N.C.
Pvt. Michael Fidorack '44, 13th Airborne Div. Hqs., Camp Mackall,N.C.
Seaman Francis Eisenhauer '32, Address Wanted
S2/c Donald Mock '31 3H24, USNTS, Camp Bennion, Farragut, Idaho
Lt. Paris J. DeSantis '40, Western Aviation Sig. Trg.Cen.,Freana,Cal.
A/S Wayne E. Holben '44, 3212 Brks. 319 USNTS, Bainbridge, Md.
Pvt. Ivan E. Handwerk '39, 899th AAF BFS, CAAF, Courtland, Ala.

Since you received our last letter the addresses of the following men have been changed. It is impossible to publish full addresses and if you want any of them drop us a line and we'll send them to you in full by return mail.

Pvt. George L. Rizos '44
Lt. Robert H. Peters '37
Lt. Theodore K. Grahn '28
Cpl. Harold W. Helfrich '44
S2/c Edward Jones '46
Lt. Wm. B. Van Ness '42
Ensign Paul Arner '43
Ensign Paul L. Candalino '43
Lt. W. Roger Jamieson '42
Capt. John J. Bortz '26
Pvt. Kenneth Stone '44
Pvt. Clarence B. Nyce '46
Lt. James F. McGovern '19
Ensign Blair Krimmel '43
Lt. Charles F. Holland '25
Capt. Ralph F. Harwick '30
Pfc. William Laubach '42
HA1/c Howard Luckenbach '46
Pvt. Roy A. Butterwick '46
Ensign Eugene H. Cochrane '38
Lt. H. Warren Dimmig '42
Pfc. Adam Matusa
Ensign Frederick W. Bowman '44
S2/c Martin Fels '42
Pfc. Nelson Bramer '37
Pvt. William P. Griffin '37
Lt. Lawrence Emert '28
Pvt. Stanley W. Fink '39
Oakley Blair '41
Lt. Robert H. Trimble '40
Midspn. Thomas S. Miller '44
Capt. M. Wm. Fetherolf '34
A/C L. Perry Scott '41
Pvt. Luther F. Cressman '42
Lt. John H. Wagner '31
Francis E. Gaumer '36
S2/c Charles R. Bupp '46
A/C John Metzger '42
Lt. Jack S. Bader '40
Cpl. John Reagen '46
Pvt. Norman C. Hoffman '46
Ensign John Young '38
Lt. Samuel Shimer '32
S.K.3/c Harland G. Leeland '45
Capt. Clyde H. Kelchner '25
Cpl. William L. Trauch '29
Pfc. L. Irving Pollitt '46
Lt. James D. Moatz '39
Lt. Clark R. Diefenderfer '42
Pfc. Robert G. Stahl '43
S2/c William B. Stults '43
A/C Frederick Johnson '44
Sgt. Forrest A. Samuels '41
Lt. Leonard C. Hodgkinson '36
S2/c Jonas W. Kurtz '28
Sgt. Edward Bossick '43
Pfc. Alfred Laubach '42
Pvt. Burton Sexton
Pvt. Ernest H. Wallender '46
Ensign Richard Busby '40
Pvt. Joseph N. Pustai '45
Cpl. Thomas R. Meredith '42
Donald C. Mack '43
Lt. Sohn Schmitthenner '42
Capt. Walter C. Dudley '38
S/Sgt. Warren Mack '42
Capt. Malcolm M. Parker '35
Seaman Francis Boyer '42
S2/c Charles H. Hoppes '32
Capt. Charles O. Ohl '41
Pvt. Bernard Naef '40
Lt. William D. Miller '30
Robert Kroll '44
Pvt. Gordon Treisbach '37
Cpl. Harold L. Knauss '42
Pvt. Stanley E. Reimer '30
Pvt. Marlowe Hartung '45
A/C Joseph B. Walker '43
Pvt. Robert R. Mumma '44
Lewis F. Steinbach '44
Pvt. Howard R. Haring '46

And now we're just about up to date. We've given you all the new names that have been added to the list with the exception of the 72 men who completed their work in the V-12 program and, by action of the Alumni Association's Executive committee and under the rules of the Alumni body have been added to the Alumni Roster. We'll use their names in the next letter.

Meanwhile--let's hear from you if you're not too busy, and keep us in touch with your addresses. We're thinking of you and wishing you the best.

Sincerely,

Gordon

Gordon B. Fister
For the Alumni Office